



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: AL/MS/FL

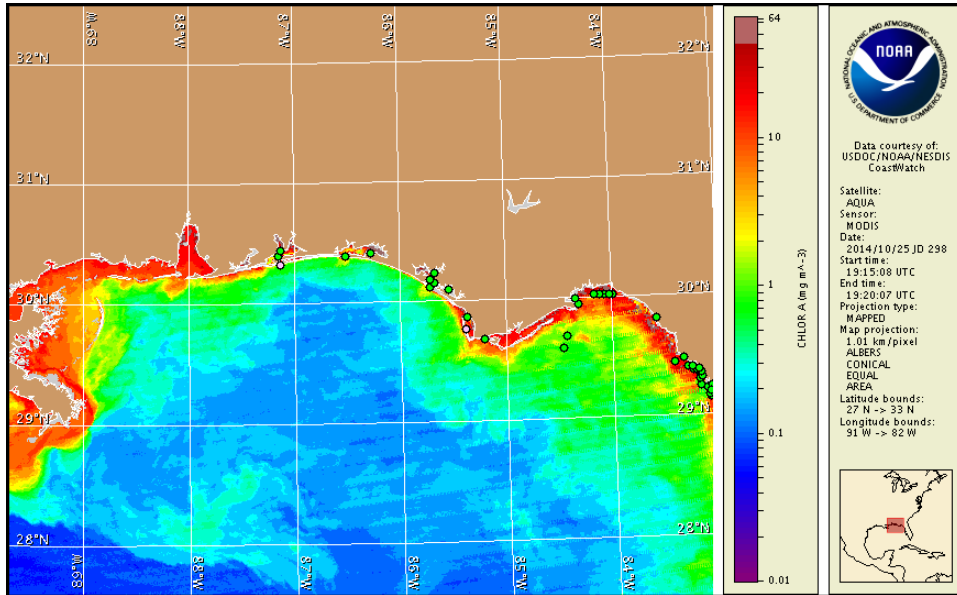
Monday, 27 October 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, October 23, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from October 17 to 24: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information for Florida can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

<http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore northwest Florida Monday, October 27 through Thursday, October 30.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations. Visit <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/#swfl> for the most recent southwest Florida conditions report.

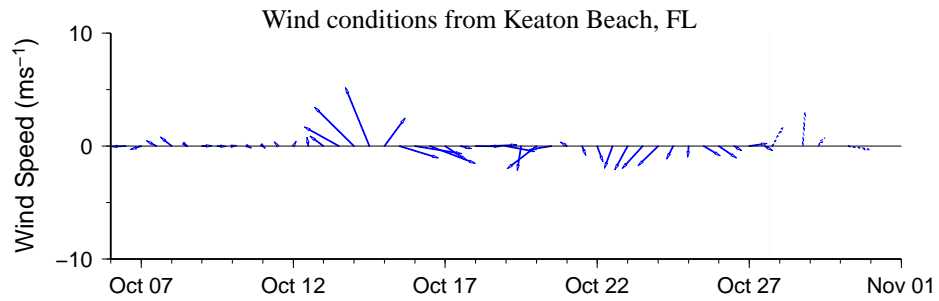
Analysis

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. Sampling over the past week at the Pensacola Beach Pier, in Escambia County, detected one background *K. brevis* concentration (FWRI; 10/22). All other sampling alongshore and in the bay regions of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Wakulla, and Taylor counties indicated *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI; 10/17-10/22). Surface samples collected during an offshore transect 3-7 miles south of Wakulla and Jefferson counties on 10/18 also indicated *K. brevis* was not present (FWRI). No fish kills or respiratory irritation associated with *K. brevis* have been reported along the coast of northwest Florida over the past few days (MML; 10/23-10/27).

In, recent MODIS Aqua imagery from 10/25 (shown left) patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 µg/L) are visible along- and offshore northwest Florida from Bay to Taylor counties. Anomalous high chlorophyll continues to be visible, in patches, alongshore and extending up to 55 miles offshore Franklin to Taylor counties. Due to the optical characteristics that are typical in the area, elevated chlorophyll is not necessarily indicative of the presence of *K. brevis*, and some elevated chlorophyll may also be due to various algal species that have been reported throughout the region as well as the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

Variable winds over the past several days may have minimized the transport of *K. brevis* concentrations. Southeast winds forecasted today through Wednesday may promote northern transport of *K. brevis* concentrations.

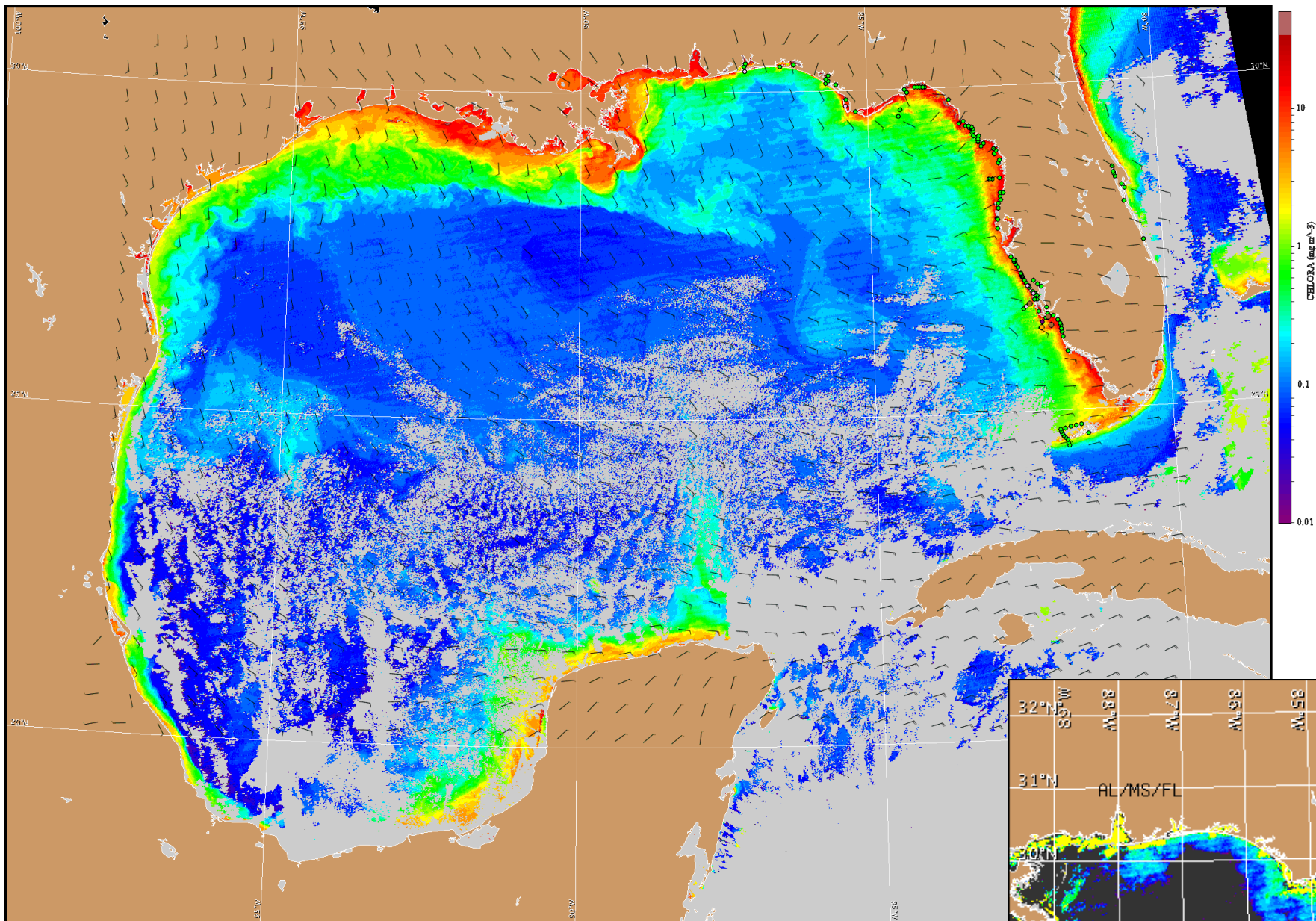
Davis, Urizar



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

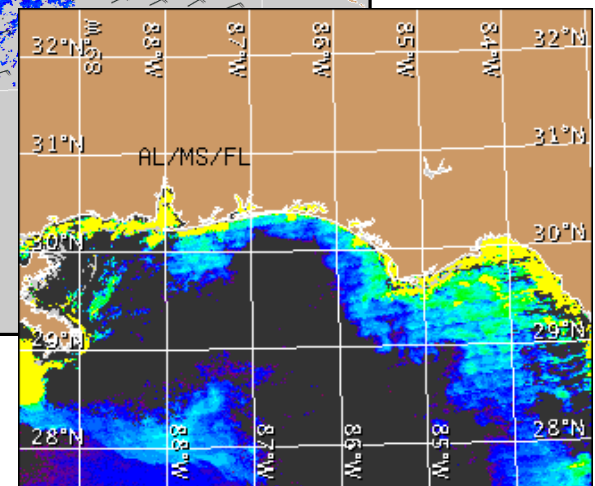
Wind Analysis

Escambia to Taylor counties: Southeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) today into Wednesday becoming southwest winds (5kn, 3m/s) Wednesday night. North winds (10kn, 5m/s) Thursday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 28, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from October 17 to 24: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).